

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education has been reduced to pay for other programs. I would like to set the record straight. The 302(b) allocation that was originally assigned to the Subcommittee was temporarily reduced to permit other subcommittees to mark up their bills. This was done with the intention that as these other bills moved through their conferences, additional dollars would be made available to provide the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee with the necessary resources to increase funding for education, health and labor programs.

As last evening's Labor-HHS-Education markup proved, there was never any intention to cut 17 percent from education programs. To the contrary, the subcommittee actually recommended \$35.2 billion for education programs, an increase of \$2.3 billion over the fiscal year 1999 program level and \$537.6 million over the administration's budget request.

Instead of reducing Head Start dollars, \$5.2 billion was recommended, which increased the program \$608.5 million over fiscal year 1999 level and matching the amount requested by the President.

After school programs were doubled from \$200 to \$400 million; aid to disadvantaged children was increased by \$320 million over last year which again matched the President's request.

Instead of decreasing technology programs, \$550 million was recommended to maintain last year's program level.

The resolution also states that a \$100 million reduction would be cut from the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program. The facts are that Safe and Drug Free schools, as part of the youth violence initiative was increased by \$45 million to provide \$611 million for state grants, school coordinators and programs to promote safe learning environments for this nation's children.

To provide a free, appropriate, public education to all children, \$6.035 billion was provided to children with disabilities increasing the program \$911.5 million over last year's amount and \$585.7 million over the President's recommendation.

And finally, the subcommittee recommended a \$200 increase in the maximum Pell grant to provide \$3,325 to help disadvantaged children achieve a college education.

In closing, I wish to point out that these increases in education dollars, have been carefully balanced with savings in other areas in the bill and advance funding. The Labor-HHS-Education bill is within the discretionary spending caps set forth in the budget resolution. This fact points out once again that the findings stated in Senate Resolution 187 were not factual which is the reason I voted against it and led the effort to provide a better formula for Federal funding as reflected in the subcommittee bill.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, September 27, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,641,247,753,162.35 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-one billion, two hundred forty-seven million, seven hundred fifty-three thousand, one hundred sixty-two dollars and thirty-five cents).

Five years ago, September 27, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,670,106,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred seventy billion, one hundred six million).

Ten years ago, September 27, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,843,044,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred forty-three billion, forty-four million).

Fifteen years ago, September 27, 1984, the Federal debt stood at \$1,570,251,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred seventy billion, two hundred fifty-one million).

Twenty-five years ago, September 27, 1974, the Federal debt stood at \$481,717,000,000 (Four hundred eighty-one billion, seven hundred seventeen million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,159,530,753,162.35 (Five trillion, one hundred fifty-nine billion, five hundred thirty million, seven hundred fifty-three thousand, one hundred sixty-two dollars and thirty-five cents) during the past 25 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House of Representatives, received during the adjournment of the Senate, announcing that the House has agreed to the report of committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2605) making appropriations for energy and water development of fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

At 10:45 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 293. An act to direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior and to convey certain lands in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College.

S. 944. An act to amend Public Law 105-188 to provide for the mineral leasing of certain Indian lands in Oklahoma.

S. 1072. An act to make certain technical and other corrections relating to the Centennial of Flight Commemoration Act (36 U.S.C. 143 note; 112 note; 112 Stat. 3486 et seq.).

S. 1637. An act to extend through the end of the current fiscal year certain expiring Federal Aviation Administration authorizations.

At 2:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 202. An act to restructure the financing for assisted housing for senior citizens and otherwise provide for the preservation of such housing in the 21st Century, and for other purposes.

H.R. 717. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to regulate overflights of national parks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1934. An act to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to establish the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program.

H.R. 2392. An act to amend the Small Business Act to extend the authorization for the Small Business Innovation research Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2841. An act to amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for greater fiscal autonomy consistent with other United States jurisdictions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2942. An act to extend for 6 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

H.J. Res. 68. Joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 140. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that Haiti should conduct free, fair, transparent, and peaceful elections, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 187. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the European Council noise rule affecting hushkitted and reengined aircraft.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 323. An act to redesignate the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument as a national park and establish the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1 of the Act to create a Library of Congress Trust Fund Board (2 U.S.C. 154), as amended by section 1 of Public Law 102-246, the Speaker reappoints the following member on the part of the House to the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board for a 5-year term: Mr. Edwin L. Cox of Dallas, Texas.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 293. An act to direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to convey certain